Employment to Local People in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

1300. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state the number of local persons employed in the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and their percentage to the total persons employed there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): The required information is not available becuase statistics based on regional origin of the employees are not maintained.

Supply of Kerosene to Orissa

1301. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the demand and supply position of kerosene in orissa, district-wise, during the last year and the current year;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the quota of kerosene in orissa; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). 153466 and 99520 tonnes of kerosene were allocated to orissa during the last year (Apr '90-Mar '91) and the current year (Apr '91-Nov'91) respectively.

District-wise allocation is made by the concerned state Governments.

There are no immediate proposals to increase the quotas to the Staets of UTs.

Compensation to Families of ONGC Employees Killed by ULFA Militants

1302. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ONGC employees killed by ULFA militants since September 1, 1991 to date;

(b) the compensation paid or proposed to be paid by the Government to each of the families of the deceased; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to control such anti-social activities of the ULFA militants?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Two officers of ONGC, namely, Sh. B.S. Raju, Assistant Executive Engineer (Production) and Sh. P.P. Srivastava, Superintending Engineer (Drilling) have been killed.

(b) Details of the compensation paid to the next of kin of S/Sh. Raju and Srivastava are given below:-

(In Rupees)

	Workmen's compensation	*Addl. Financial benefit*	*Ex-gratia*
Sh. B.S. Raju	85,428	2,00,000	5,00,000
Sh. P.P. Srivastava	59,868	2,00,000	5,00,000

(c) Security measures have been tightened in different parts of the country. Additional companies of para-military forces and even army have been deployed in aid of civil cauthorities in certain sensitive areas to tackle the situation. An officer of the rank of

I.G. has been posted as Director (Security) in O.N.G.C. in the North-East region.

Control of Water Hyacinth

1303. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether water hyacinth weed could be effectively controlled by releasing Neochatina Weevils;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to popularise this technique to control the water hyacinth which block several irrigation canals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Central Integrated Pest Management Centres under the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage have demonstrated succeessful control of water hyacinth by releasing *Neochatin* weevils in the an area of 5286 ha. in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Similar promosing results have been achieved by the institutions under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Kerala Agricuiturai University.

As for irrigation canals, some releases have been made wherever request has been received from the concerned authorities.

World Bank Report on Fisheries

1304. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Report titled "Fisheries and Aqua culture Research Capabilities and Needs in Asia," forecasts that there is likely to be a stagnancy in marine catch along the coastline in inshore area;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to tackle this situation

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE: (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). The World Bank Report has not yet come to the notice of the Government. However there has been a steady growth in the production of fish from coastal waters in recent years.

(c) However, Government are taking steps to extend the range of operation of the fishing vessels to off shore waters by motorisation of traditional craft, introduction of off shore pelagic fishing boats, etc.

Request for Participation of Oil India Limited in Gas Cracker Project

1305. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has requested the Union Government to allow Oil India Limited to participate in a Gas cracker Project with a substantial equity holding; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request is under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Tissue Culture Technique

1306. PROF. UMMAREDDY